

Promises of God

3. Christ's Return



John 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

Meaning: The Rapture of the church and the second coming of Christ are two different events. The Rapture will take place before the tribulation period in which all those who are saved, both dead and alive, will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (I Thessalonians 4:13-18). The second coming of Christ will take place after the tribulation period in which Christ will return with all saints to set up His kingdom on this earth (Revelation 19:11-16; 20:6).

Application: When Jesus returned to Heaven from His first coming, the angel said, "this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). We do not know the day or the hour, but one thing is certain, Jesus promised "I will come again" and "when he shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see him as He is" (I John 3:2).

Other Verses for Study: Matthew 24:3-14; Luke 21:25-28; John 14:1-4; I Corinthians 15:51-57; II Timothy 4:6-8; Titus 2:13; II Peter 3:3, 4; 8-13

1. When will the Rapture and the second coming take place?

2. Do we know the exact time of Christ's coming? _____

3. What will happen to us when Jesus appears?

"One out of every thirty verses in the New Testament refer to the Lord's return. For every prophecy on the first coming of Christ in the Bible, there are eight about Christ's second coming."